

Up to October 14, 1967

2,398 U.S. PLANES DOWNED
OVER NORTH VIET NAM

VIETNAM

COURIER

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SOUTH VIETNAM

2nd CONGRESS OF HEROES, MODEL FIGHTERS AND GALLANT COMBATANTS OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM PEOPLE'S L.A.F. VIVID EXPRESSION OF THE WILL TO FIGHT AND TO DEFEAT THE AMERICAN AGGRESSORS

REPORTAGE ON THE OPENING SESSION

(Pages 4-5)



President Nguyen Huu Tho delivers the opening speech

OPENING SPEECH OF PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Revolutionary Central Committee, I wish to convey warm greetings to the Second Congress of Heroes, Model Fighters and Gallant Combatants of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces.

Our Congress opens at a time when we are recording big victories, marking the rapid growth of our armed forces and people over the

past two years. Following the brilliant victories of last year's dry and rainy seasons, this dry season, the heroic South Viet Nam armed forces and people have maintained their initiative on the battlefields, continually attacked the enemy and scored the greatest successes so far in the military, political, economic fields, driving him into a more serious quandary and passive position. Those tremendous successes of our armed forces and people bear a consider-

able strategic significance as they repeatedly foiled the very important initial steps of the American aggressors' "line of war". In the U.S. "two-pronged strategy" — "sear and destroy" and "pacification" — have come to a lamentable grief. Not only did the enemy fail to attain his goals, but he was forced to receive telling counter-blows. With a 1,200,000-strong army, he could not wrest back the initiative on the battlefield, but lapsed further into strategic pas-

sivity and an ever more defensive position. All his large-scale operations failed; his combat effectiveness was very low; the number of his casualties kept increasing while his losses in war means was very heavy and his tactics became increasingly stupid. Through actual fighting we better know the strong and weak points of the U.S. expeditionary troops and better realize the true strength of people's war. From this basis we have drawn valuable experiences, improved our people's war strategy and tactics, and have made clearly the laws governing the development of the national liberation revolution in South Viet Nam, — which makes all our armed forces and people more confident in their capabilities to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors.

Rapidly towards complete defeat: when the army and people of our blood sealed their anti-imperialistic response to President Ho Chi Minh's "Resist U.S. aggression for national salvation" sacred appeal, are wholeheartedly supporting the struggle for the liberation of the South, have dealt repeated heavy blows at the invaders and brought down 2,398 U.S. aircraft, where the countries in the socialist camp, the progressive people the world over, the anti-U.S. movement and the people of the United States itself are condemning and protesting against the aggressive actions of U.S. imperialism, warmly cheering up our people just resistance and shoulder to shoulder with us, opposing the common enemy.

Ours is a congress of victors, the most representative representatives of the epoch of struggle against U.S. imperialism, in the forefront of which our people have the right to fight. Our Congress does not only represent the cream of our armed forces but it is also the condensed, magnificent and vivid expression of the 31 million compatriots in the South, of men and women who have the heart to fight and the determination to defeat the U.S. aggressors. Clearly, it deserves to be called the congress of the resolve to fight and defeat U.S. aggressors.

Our Congress opens at a moment when our armed forces and people, availing themselves of their successes, are determined to seize arms in Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Da Nang, Bien Hoa, Phuoc Vinh, Binh Long, Ngai Giao, Cu Chi and Can Tho, thereby pushing the U.S. aggressors and their vassals

(Continued page 7)

THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE N.F.L.— A POLICY OF PEACE AND NEUTRALITY

WHILE fighting for their sacred national rights, the people of South Viet Nam actively accomplish their internationalist duty. Their resistance war against U.S. aggression is integral part of the revolutionary struggle of the people all over the world.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation undertakes to stand within the monolithic bloc of the Indo-Chinese peoples to fight against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, to defend the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation pledges itself to take an active part in the common struggle of the world's peoples against the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

(South Viet Nam N.F.L.
Political Programme,
Part I, Point 3)

THE South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation applies a foreign policy of peace and neutrality, a foreign policy which guarantees the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our country and helps safeguard world peace. In more concrete terms, this policy consists in the following points:

① To establish diplomatic relations with all countries regardless of their social and political system, on the principle of mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, without infringement upon each other's territory, without interference into each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefits and peaceful co-existence.

To abolish all unequal treaties which the puppet administration has signed with the United States or any other country.

To respect the economic and cultural interests of those countries which sympathize with, support or assist the Vietnamese people's struggle

The foreign policy of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is peace, neutrality and active contribution to the struggle of the world's peoples against U.S.-headed imperialism for national independence, democracy and social progress. It is supported by our people in both parts of Viet Nam. We print below excerpts of the programme dealing with this policy and commentaries of the papers Nhan Dan and Giai Phong. — Editor

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against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

To accept technical and economic assistance from any country without political conditions imposed.

To join no military alliance; to accept no military personnel or military base of foreign countries on South Viet Nam territory.

To strengthen the friendly relations with all countries which sympathize with, support or assist the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

To strengthen the relations of good neighborhood between the South and North Viet Nam. To increasingly strengthen the solidarity and mutual assistance between the peoples of the Indo-Chinese countries.

To strengthen the relations of good neighborhood

with Black and Latin American peoples for national salvation.

Actively support the struggle for peace, democracy and social progress of all countries in the world.

Actively struggle to contribute to the safeguarding of world peace, oppose the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism. Demand the dissolution of the aggressive military blocs and foreign military bases of imperialism.

Actively increasingly consolidate and develop cooperation with international democratic organizations and the peoples of all countries including the American people.

Actively contribute to the consolidation and development of the world peoples from in support of Viet Nam against the U.S. imperialist aggression for national independence and peace.

(South Viet Nam N.F.L.
Political Programme,
Part IV)

N accordance with the Front's policy of neutrality and on the principle of non-interference, general respect for the independence and sovereignty of the Vietnamese nation, foreign trade will be expanded, and economic and technical assistance from foreign countries will be accepted, regardless of political and social systems.

(South Viet Nam N.F.L.
Political Programme,
Part II, Point 1)

FROM Sept. 19 to 29, the guerrillas of three districts of Chau Thanh, Giang Trom and Mo Cay beat off an operation conducted by two enemy brigades: 229 G.I.s were killed or wounded, 100 enemy tanks and 45 km of roads were damaged, the same source said.

The enemy's heaviest losses in this raid were that 12 soldiers of the column of a U.S. brigade raiding 4 villages of Chau Thanh district were killed or wounded.

The guerrillas and regional armed forces put all action bodies of enemy troops, almost all of them G.I.'s, shot down or planes, destroyed 19 armored cars and damaged 4 roym cannons.

BEN TRE

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interests of those foreign residents who have directly or indirectly supported the Vietnamese people's resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

(South Viet Nam N.F.L.
Political Programme,
Part II, Point 14)

WHILE fighting for their sacred national rights the South Viet Nam people effectively fulfil their internationalist duty. Their struggle against U.S. imperialism is part and parcel of the revolutionary struggle of the world's peoples. The international dimension of our people's struggle as defined in the Political Programme is a source of inspiration for our armed forces and people. It is not surprising that today the word "Viet Nam" has become familiar to the world's peoples and symbolizes ardent patriotism, staunch anti-imperialism, and deep love for freedom and justice.

Actively support the struggle for the world's peoples against the U.S. imperialists' bases of aggression in Viet Nam.

Actively support the just struggle of Black people in the United States for their fundamental human rights.

Actively support the struggle for peace, democracy and social progress of all countries in the world.

Actively struggle to con-

tribute to the safeguarding of world peace, oppose the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism. Demand the dissolution of the aggressive military blocs and foreign military bases of imperialism.

Actively increasingly consolidate and develop cooperation with international democratic organizations and the peoples of all countries including the American people.

Actively contribute to the consolidation and development of the world peoples from in support of Viet Nam against the U.S. imperialist aggression for national independence and peace.

(Excerpts from an editorial of Giai Phong (Liberation), organ of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.)

THE foreign policy of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is a reaction and struggle one. It is aimed at safeguarding South Viet Nam's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity; establishment of diplomatic relations with all countries regardless of their political and social system, on the basis of the respect of each other's national rights and differences in each other's internal affairs; equality, mutual interests and peaceful co-existence; non-adherence to any military bloc except of the principles of political and technical assistance from all countries without political conditions attached, strengthening of good neighborly relations with Cambodia and Laos, active support to the national liberation movements of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples and active contribution to the struggle of the world's peoples for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

(Excerpts from Nhan Dan editorial, Sept. 2, 1967)

REPEATED VICTORIES OF THE L.A.F.

CHO LON: 2 Puppet Ranger Companies Attacked 45 km East-Northeast of Saigon: 120 Soldiers Wiped Out (Oct. 4).

SOC TRANG: An Enemy Post Assaulted, a Military Sector Shelled: 100 U.S. and Puppet Troops Put out of Action in Two Nights (Sept. 24 and 29).

CU CHI: An Operation by Three Battalions of U.S. Infantry Division 25 Caught Off: 600 G.I.s Knocked Out, 20 Planes Downed, 19 Armoured Cars Destroyed and 4 Cannons Damaged (Sept. 17-27).

BEN TRE: An Operation by Two Enemy Brigades Foiled: 229 G.I.s Wiped Out, 5 Vessels Sunk or Damaged (Sept. 19-29).

THU DAU MOT: 1 Puppet Regular Battalion Wiped Out 70km Northwest of Saigon (Oct. 2).

CHO LON

ON Oct. 4, 1967, the L.A.F. attacked by surprise 2 companies of puppet Rangers encamped in a forest 45 km east-northeast of Saigon. Giai Phong Press Agency reported. After 15 minutes fighting, the L.A.F. controlled the situation and pursued the enemy, wiping out 120 puppet troops.

On the night of Sept. 30, the guerrillas and regional army also knocked out one platoon of the guerilla army defending a "strategic hamlet" about 20km south of Saigon.

SOC TRANG

ACCORDING to Giai Phong Press Agency, the guerrillas in two

nights of Sept. 27, 26 and 29 overran a post, attacked a puppet company, shelled a military sector, knocked out of action 100 enemy troops and blew up a bridge.

CU CHI

IN the Cu Chi battle from Sept. 17 to 27, the guerrillas and regional army of three districts of Cu Chi (Binh Dinh province) together with the guerrillas in Ben Cat and Ben Dinh (Binh Dinh province) fought off an operation by three battalions of U.S. Infantry Division 25 (north of Cu Chi), Giai Phong Press Agency further reported.

The guerrillas and regional army put all in action bodies of enemy troops, almost all of

them G.I.'s, shot down or planes, destroyed 19 armored cars and damaged 4 roym cannons.

BEN TRE

FROM Sept. 19 to 29, the guerrillas of three districts of Chau Thanh, Giang Trom and Mo Cay beat off an operation conducted by two enemy brigades: 229 G.I.s were killed or wounded, 100 enemy tanks and 45 km of roads were damaged, the same source said.

The enemy's heaviest losses in this raid were that 12 soldiers of the column of a U.S. brigade raiding 4 villages of Chau Thanh district were killed or wounded.

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